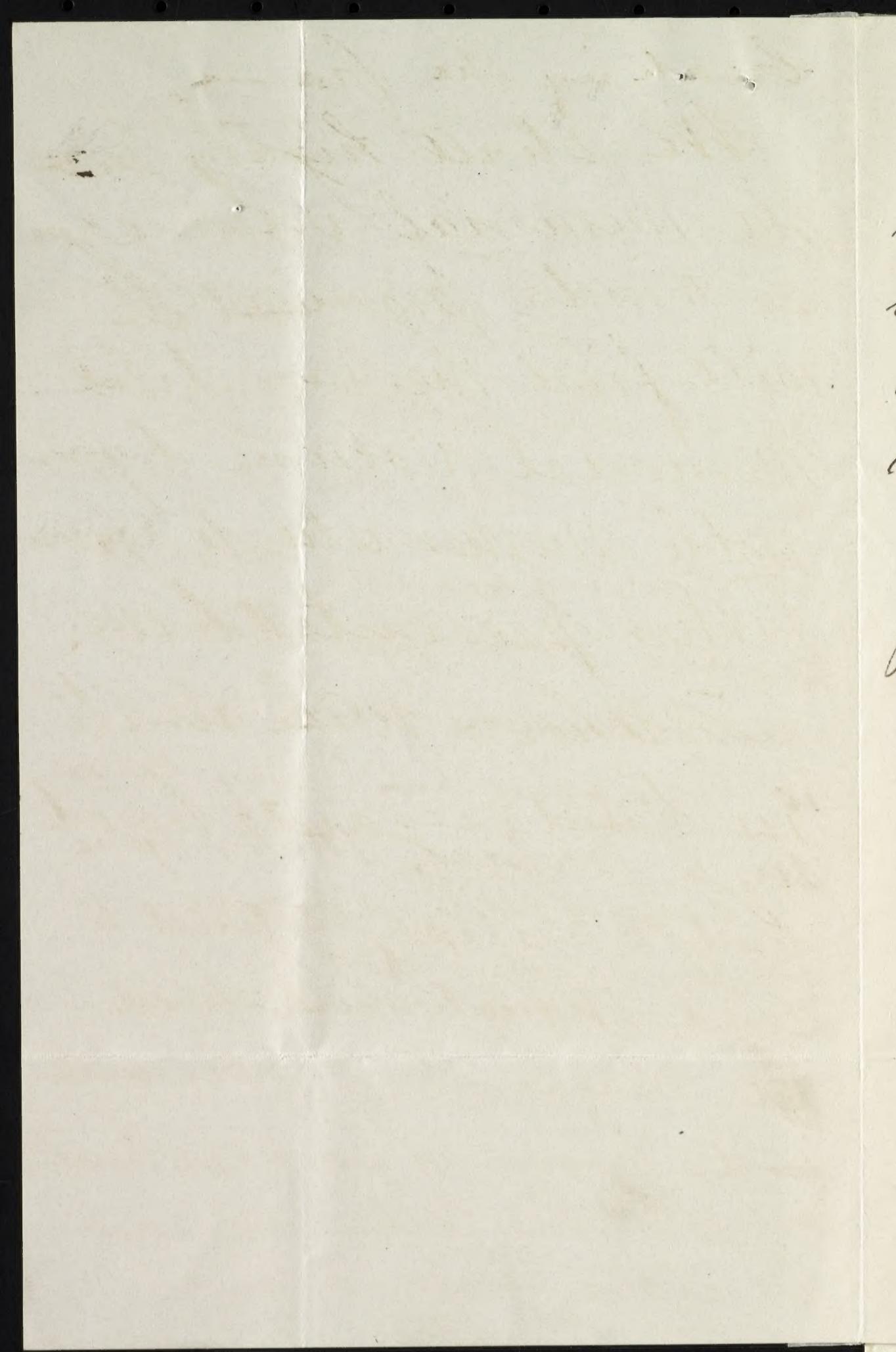


Ms.A.1.1 v.8, p.65A  
West Newton Aug. 23/79

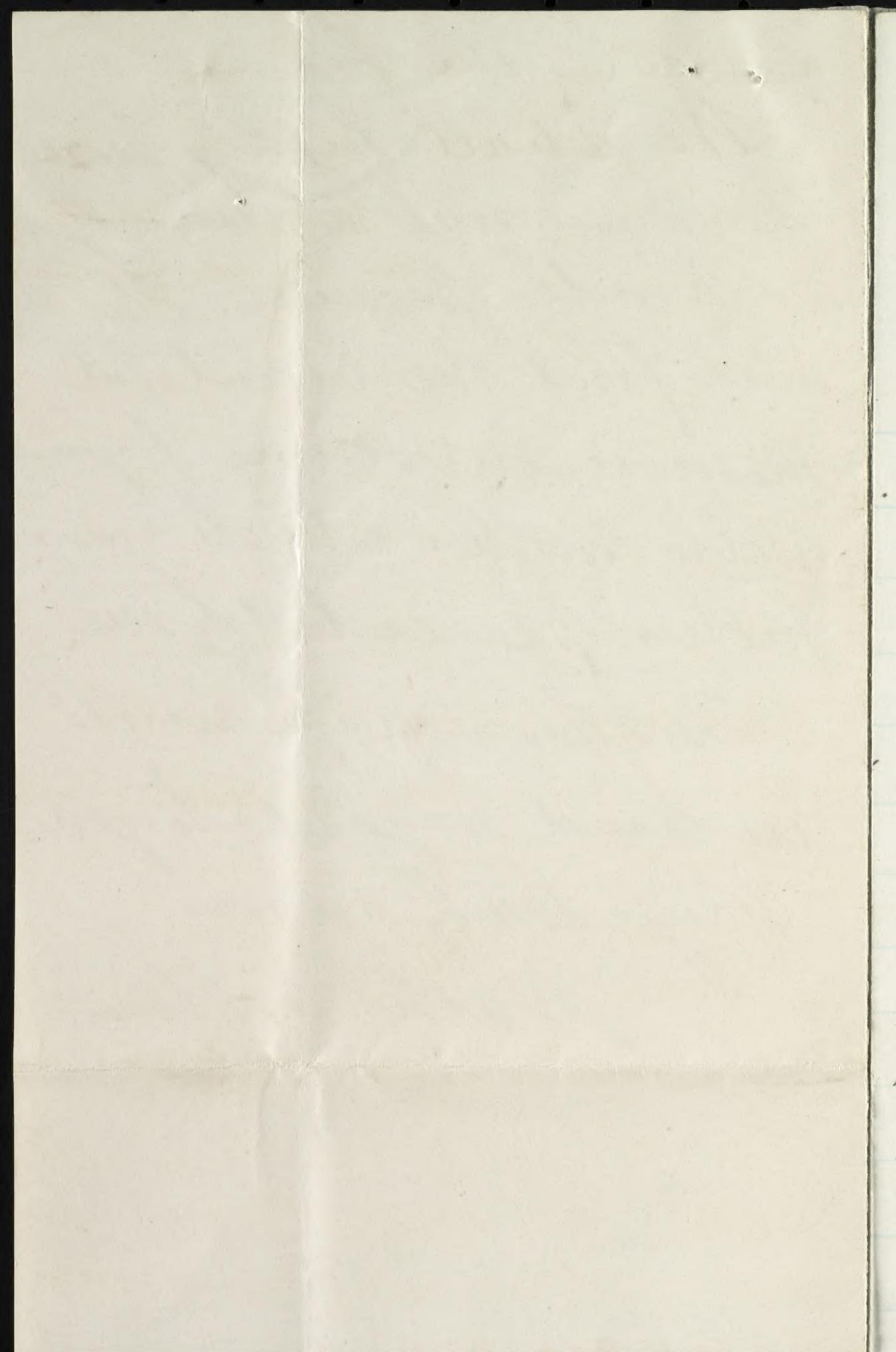
Dear Mr. Garrison.

I am glad to send the letters of your Father. The one relating to Churches for Colored people was printed in our Newton Journal & is hanging in my library in a frame. That I have had carefully copied to <sup>wh. you need not return</sup> send, though will send the original if you wish it. The frame is so constructed that the letter cannot be taken from it without



breaking the frame.  
We shall highly prize  
the Memorial volume you  
so kindly promise. I  
will find the beautiful  
Memorial Volume by your  
noble Mother which your  
Father presented to me.

Mother & wife unite  
in kind regards to you  
Very truly yours,  
Nathl. T. Allen.



(31)

WEST NEWTON ENGLISH & CLASSICAL SCHOOL  
Copy of letter from  
Wm. Lloyd Garrison to Nath'l. T. Allen  
Copied by Frank E. Johnson

West Newton, Aug 23

1879.

Roxbury. Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> 1874.

Dear Mr. Allen:

I was much gratified to receive a letter from you, some weeks ago, enclosing an article from your paper printed in the Newton Journal, expressing in fraternal but earnest words your regret that a church has just been organized by the colored residents in your village, "on the single basis of color," when they are no longer obliged by complexional proscription to be separated in matters of religious worship from their white fellow-citizens.

My apology for not sending you a reply at the time must be ill health, which indeed has obliged me, almost wholly, to abstain from epistolary correspondence for the past six months.

You wish to get my views upon the general principle. Of these I feel sure you can entertain no doubt. They are in exact accordance with those so forcibly expressed by yourself in the article referred to; and I heartily thank you for making so timely a testimony in so clear and lucid a manner. Coming from you as the tried friend of the colored race, it deserves their special consideration; for you not only "fought the good fight" with the monster Slavery until its destruction was assured, but in your

daily life, and as a public educator have long since put beneath your feet that spirit of complexional caste which is its baneful product, and utterly at variance with the claims of human brotherhood.

In your letter you say - "Of course, we must expect that the colored like other people will have their own social circles; but is it not their duty to endeavor to mingle in our schools and churches with whites? Is it not best for them, and their children, on the whole?"

These questions I answer strongly in the affirmative. To this end, with the emancipation and enfranchisement of the millions, once held in the Southern house of bondage, I have raised my voice and exerted what influence I could for the last forty-five years, and I am now too old and too firmly settled in conviction to take any step backward.

The case is a very plain one. Whenever or wherever colored persons are excluded by law or usage from those rights and privileges which are enjoyed by all other classes, - whether relating to religious worship, secular education, or anything else. - the only alternative left to them is to act together "on the single basis of color," it being not a case of self-exclusion, but a necessity arising from an inexorable proscription. But when, or where no such exclusion is enforced, and a disposition is shown to treat them with fairness and respect, then for them to withdraw from a common fellowship and erect complexional barriers is to establish a precedent which logically ends in

endorsing the old pro-slavery doctrine, that there should be no fraternization between the two races, on account of color.

Your statement, that you "have not learned that a single white person has urged or recommended this movement," is most creditable to the citizens of West Newton; and your other statement, that much credit is to be accorded to the colored residents "for general industry, thrift, intelligence, and a laudable ambition to improve and elevate themselves in every way," is particularly gratifying.

Yours for the overthrow  
of all unnatural distinctions,

W<sup>m</sup>. Lloyd Garrison.  
Nathaniel T. Allen, Esq.

The above has been carefully read  
& compared with the original & found correct  
in every word N. T. Allen.

